

A G E N D A



RCA	Austin City Council	Item ID	6545
Meeting Date:	5/26/2011	Department:	Economic Growth and Redevelopment

Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a design and commission agreement with Reginald Charles Adams for the African American Cultural and Heritage Facility Art in Public Places project in an amount not to exceed \$65,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$65,000 is included in the Financial and Administrative Services Fiscal Year 2010-11 Capital Budget.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Kevin Johns, Director, EGRSO / 974-7802; Meghan Turner, Acting AIPP Administrator, EGRSO / 974-9314
Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Austin Arts Commission and the African American Resource Advisory Commission.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

PROJECT SUMMARY

In November 2009, Austin became one of seven communities to receive the first official State of Texas Cultural District Designations from the Texas Commission on the Arts. The African-American Cultural Heritage District (AACHD) boundaries are Manor Road to Huston-Tillotson University from north to south, and Airport Boulevard to IH-35 from east to west. The district represents a diverse mix of historic and heritage sites and institutions, contemporary arts and cultural organizations, artist studios and work spaces, and small businesses that represent artists and their work.

Within the AACHD, the African-American Cultural and Heritage Facility will house office and rehearsal space for Pro Arts Collective, a community non-profit organization, offices for the Capital City African-American Chamber of Commerce, as well as incorporate a Visitors' Bureau which will provide information and exhibits on the new AACHD. This new city-owned facility will be a focal point in East Austin to stimulate African-American arts,

culture and entertainment, as well as small businesses.

The goal for the public art at the African-American Cultural and Heritage Facility is to showcase a work of contemporary public art that honors the cultural heritage of the African-American community in Austin. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on November 23, 2010 to professional visual artists and artist teams, at least 18 years of age, who live in Texas. Art in Public Places staff held three workshops to assist emerging and experienced artists develop their proposals and submit to the call using the online artist registry.

The Selection Panel met with Advisors on Friday, January 28, 2011 to review the 21 eligible proposal responses submitted, including images of past work, resume, Letter of Interest/Conceptual Proposal Narrative and an image, sketch, drawing or rendering of a conceptual proposal. The Selection Panel voted unanimously to recommend the artist Reginald Charles Adams (Houston, TX), and voted 2-1 to recommend the artist team of Forest Young (Austin, TX) and Sheila Levrant De Brettville (Hamden, CT) as the alternate.

On February 7, 2011, the AIPP Panel unanimously approved the Selection Panel's recommendation that the artist Reginald Charles Adams (Houston, TX) be commissioned for the African-American Cultural & Heritage Facility AIPP project and the artist team of Forest Young (Austin, TX) and Sheila Levrant De Brettville (Hamden, CT) as the alternate. The Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the artist selection on March 7, 2011.

SELECTION PANEL

- **Dr. Moyo Okediji** - Artist, curator and Associate Professor, University of Texas at Austin, College of Liberal Arts, John L. Warfield Center for African and African American Studies
- **Lisa Hembry** - Serves on the Texas Historical Commission. Former board member of the Dallas Museum of Art, the African American Museum and the National Museum of Miniature Arts, former member of the Texas Commission on the Arts, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services in Washington, D.C.
- **Dr. Eddie Chambers** - Assistant Professor, University of Texas, Department of Art and Art History

ADVISORS

- **Sandra Harkins**, Project Coordinator, City of Austin, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development
- **Dusty McCormick**, City of Austin, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office
- **Ateja Dukes**, Neighborhood Liaison, City of Austin, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development
- **Alison Von Stein**, Project Manager, City of Austin, Public Works Department
- **Lisa Byrd**, Executive Director, ProArts Collective
- **Juanita Stephens**, President & CEO, Capital City African-American Chamber of Commerce
- **Dr. Chiquita W. Eugene**, Member of the African-American Resource Advisory Commission
- **Heather McKinney**, Principal, McKinney/York Architects
- **Jennifer Chenoweth**, Art in Public Places Panel member and artist